

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 238396 TOSEC 100086

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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM THE WHITE HOUSE DATED OCTOBER 4, 1977
SENT ATHENS, ANKARA, BONN, BRUSSELS, COPENHAGEN, LONDON, LISBON,
LUXEMBOURG, OTTAWA, OSLO, PARIS, ROME, REYKJAVIK, THE
HAGUE, USNATO IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

S E C R E T EYES ONLY NODIS WH70497

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S UNGA SPEECH: REMARKS ON THE
USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

1. PRESIDENT'S UNGA SPEECH TO BE DELIVERED TUESDAY, OCTOBER
4 AT 10:30 A.M. NEW YORK TIME INCLUDES FOLLOWING SECTIONS
ON USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS:

"TO REDUCE THE RELIANCE OF NATIONS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONRY
I HEREBY SOLEMNLY DECLARE ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES
THAT WE WILL NOT USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS EXCEPT IN SELF-DEFENSE;
THAT IS, IN CIRCUMSTANCES OF AN ACTUAL NUCLEAR OR CONVENTIONAL
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ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES, OUR TERRITORIES OR ARMED FORCES,
OR SUCH AN ATTACK ON OUR ALLIES.

IN ADDITION, WE HOPE THAT INITIATIVES BY THE WESTERN NATIONS
TO SECURE MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS IN EUROPE
WILL BE MET BY EQUAL RESPONSE FROM THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES."

2. FOR USNATO: US PERM REP SHOULD INFORM COLLEAGUES OF FOREGOING IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY DRAWING ON PARA 3 BELOW. FOR CAPITALS: AMBASSADOR SHOULD MAKE SIMILAR APPROACH TO FOREIGN MINISTER OR APPROPRIATE HIGH-LEVEL OFFICIAL AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

3. PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT IS BASICALLY INTENDED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES NO LESS THAN THE SOVIET UNION IS INTERESTED IN SEEING THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS NEVER HAVE TO BE USED. STATEMENT HAS ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE OF GIVING US AND ALLIES FIRMER GROUND ON WHICH TO STAND, VIS-A-VIS POSSIBLE WARSAW PACT NO-FIRST USE PROPOSAL IN CSCE MEETING IN BELGRADE. STATEMENT DOES NOT IMPACT ON CURRENT NATO STRATEGY OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE INCLUDING ROLE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. IT APPLIES TO SELF-DEFENCE AGAINST ANY ATTACK ON US AND ALLIES WHETHER NUCLEAR OR CONVENTIONAL AND THUS FULLY MAINTAINS NATO OPTIONS TO RESPOND TO ATTACK. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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